

Please change the fees due according to the enclosed Fee Transmittal to Deposit
Account No. 08-0219.

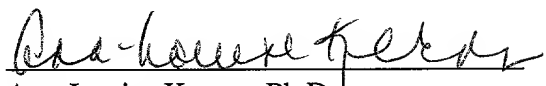
An early and favorable Office Action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

HALE AND DORR LLP

Dated: September 28, 2001

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MARKED-UP CLAIMS

4. (Amended) A method according to [either of claims 1 to 3] claim 1 characterised in that the said polynucleotide modulates the production of pectate lyase.

6. (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 wherein the plant material is transformed using the *Agrobacterium*, microparticle bombardment, fibre mediated or direct insertion method.

8. (Amended) A vector functional in plants comprising a promoter region which is operable in plant cells, at least one of the polynucleotide sequences described in claim 1 [to 3] and a transcription termination sequence.

11. (Amended) A banana produced via the method according to [claims 1 to 6] claim 1 having altered fruit characteristics when compared with a banana which is not transformed with at least one of the polynucleotide sequences described in [claims 1 to 3] claim 1.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits and is therefore submitted as both timely and proper; therefore, no fees are believed to be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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